

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 were previously cancelled. Claims 26, 29 and 38 are currently amended.

Claims 27 and 46 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 28, 30 and 31 are cancelled.

Claims 32-37, 39-45 and 47 are carried forward, all as follows.

Claims 1-25 (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A folding apparatus comprising:

at least a first cylinder having a first circumferential speed and a first circumferential length;
a second cylinder, embodied as a folding jaw cylinder and cooperating with said first cylinder, said second cylinder having a second circumferential length equal to said first circumferential length of said first cylinder, said second cylinder having a second circumferential speed equal to said first circumferential speed of said first cylinder;

a cutter cylinder cooperating with said first cylinder and adapted to sever product sections of a defined length from a continuous web having a feeding speed corresponding to both said first circumferential speed and said second circumferential speed, said product sections having said defined length being received on said first cylinder, whose first circumferential length is a whole number of said product section length, without spacings between adjacent ones of said product sections;

a common frame supporting said first cylinder and said second cylinder as a first folding group;

a seating arrangement of said first cylinder and said second cylinder in said frame, said seating arrangement being usable to support said first cylinder configured selectively as one of a gripper cylinder and a spur needle cylinder and having a drive geometry,

and a relative position between said first cylinder and said second cylinder in said seating arrangement being the same when said first cylinder is configured selectively as said one of a gripper cylinder and a spur needle cylinder whereby said product section has said defined length.

27. (Withdrawn) The folding apparatus of claim 25 further including a second folding group in said common frame, said first folding group being provided with said first cylinder as one of said gripper cylinder and said spur needle cylinder, said second folding group being provided with said first cylinder as the other of said gripper cylinder and said spur needle cylinder.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein said first cylinder is said gripper cylinder, said gripper cylinder having grippers movable both in a pivoting movement and in a transitory movement.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein a transmission ratio between said first cylinder and said second cylinder is the same for each of said selectively one of said gripper cylinders and said spur needle cylinder as said first cylinder.

33. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein said first cylinder has a first axis of rotation and said second cylinder has a second axis of rotation, a spacing distance between said first and second axes of rotation being the same for each of said selectively one of said gripper cylinders and said spur needle cylinder as said first cylinder.

34. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein a selective position of said first cylinder in said common frame is the same for each of said selectively one of said gripper cylinder and said spur needle cylinder as said first cylinder.

35. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 further including bores in said common frame and adapted to receive bearings supporting said first cylinder.

36. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 further including a drive motor having a fixed relative position.

37. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 further including a recess in said common frame and adapted to exchange said first cylinder.

38. (Currently Amended) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein said first cylinder is a gripper cylinder having a cylinder body with at least one gripper, said at least one gripper being movable between a first position retracted into said cylinder body, a second position extended out of said cylinder body and at third, clamping position, said at least one gripper having a tip, said tip, in said clamping position, being adapted to press a leading edge of said continuous web against a surface section of said cylinder body.

39. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 38 wherein said gripper cylinder includes a first shaft which is movable in a radial direction in said gripper cylinder, said gripper being pivotable around said first shaft between said retracted position and said extended position.

40. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 39 wherein said pivotal movement of said gripper and said radial movement of said shaft are coupled, whereby said first shaft moves radially inwardly during said pivotal movement of said gripper into said clamping position.

41. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 39 further including a first arm supporting said first shaft, and a second shaft, said second shaft being rotatable in said cylinder body, said first arm being pivotable about said second shaft to effect said radial movement of said first shaft.

42. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 41 further including a first cam disk adapted to cause said pivot movement of said first arm.

43. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 42 further including a coupling rod having a first end connected to said gripper and a second end connected to a second arm, and further including a third shaft, said second arm being pivotable about said third shaft to drive said pivot movement of said gripper.

44. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 43 further including a second cam disk adapted to cause said pivot movement of said second arm.

45. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 43 wherein said first arm is oriented in a circumferential direction of said cylinder body and said second arm is oriented in a radial direction of said cylinder body.

46. (Withdrawn) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein said first cylinder is a folding blade cylinder.

47. (Previously Presented) The folding apparatus of claim 26 wherein said first cylinder is said gripper cylinder and including a gripper supported by a shaft, said shaft being movable in a radial direction of said gripper cylinder.